

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 June 2004 (03.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/047424 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04M 11/04**

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2003/036412

(22) International Filing Date:
13 November 2003 (13.11.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/426,952 15 November 2002 (15.11.2002) US
60/426,954 15 November 2002 (15.11.2002) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92648 Boulogne (FR).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **MEARS, Mark,**

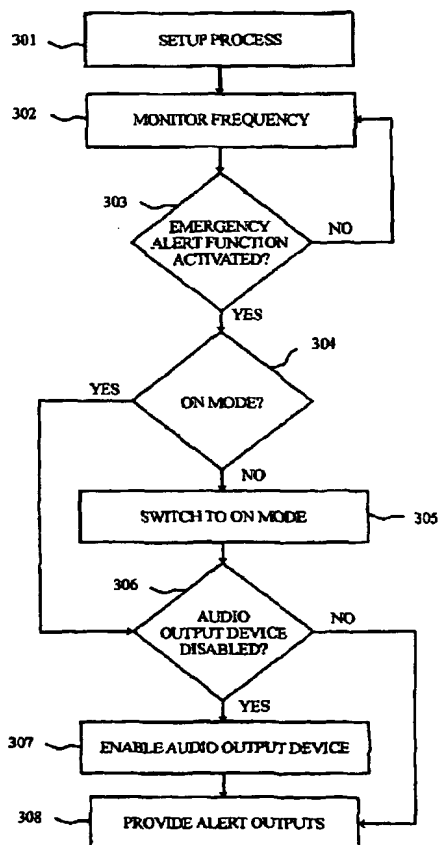
Gilmore [US/US]; 6514 Hyde Park Drive, Zionsville, IN 46077 (US). **KENDALL, Scott, Allan** [US/US]; 318 McIntosh Lane, Westfield, IN 46974 (US). **BRIDGE, Michael, Alan** [US/US]; 8905 Providence Drive, Noblesville, IN 46060 (US). **SAHASRABUDHE, Rajeev, Madhukar** [IN/US]; 12910 Patrick Court, Fishers, IN 46038 (US).

(74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S.** et al.; c/o Thomson Licensing Inc., Two Independence Way, Suite 200, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING ALERT OUTPUTS



(57) Abstract: An apparatus such as a television signal receiver (20), radio and/or other device having an emergency alert function provides alert outputs in manner which increases the likelihood that users are promptly notified of emergency events. According to an exemplary embodiment, a television signal receiver (20) includes a tuner (22) operative to tune signals including emergency alert signals capable of activating the emergency alert function. A processor (27) is operative to enable a disabled audio output device associated with the television signal receiver (20) responsive to activation of the emergency alert function.



(84) **Designated States** (*regional*): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(88) **Date of publication of the international search report:**
26 August 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Published:

— *with international search report*

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/36412

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04M 11/04

US CL : 379/48, 37, 39-51; 455/552, 555, 166.2

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 379/48, 37, 39-51; 455/552, 555, 166.2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST DATABASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,917,887 A (FESLER et al) 29 June 1999 (29.06.1999), col. 4, line 28-col.5, line 37; col. 6, lines 25-63; col. 7, lines 15-59.	1-6, 8-15, 17-24, 27, 27
Y	US 6,329,904 B1 (LAMB) 11 December 2001 (11.12.2001), col. 6, line 66-col. 7, line 67, col. 9, lines 6-48, col. 10, line 6-60	1-27
Y	US 5,907,793 A (REAMS) 25 May 1999 (25.05.1999), col. 4, lines 35-57, col. 5, line 61-col. 6, line 28	1-4, 7-14, 17-22, 25-27
Y	US 6,118,386 A (YOUSIF) 12 September 2000 (12.09.2000), col. 6, line 41-col. 7, line 54.	1, 2, 10, 11, 19, 20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 April 2004 (30.04.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

26 MAY 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

John W Miller

Telephone No. 703-306-0377